

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

For purposes of identifying the species of the newly submitted claims, claims 98, 99, 103 and 104 fall within the elected species of Group I. At least claim 98 is generic to all new claims. Therefore, if claim 98 is found to be allowable, consideration of all claims depending therefrom, including the non elected species, is respectfully requested.

It is respectfully submitted that new claims 98 through 114 be entered in place of claims 71 through 97.

New claim 98 is believed to be clearly distinguishable with respect to the prior art of record. More specifically, the claim recites a knee prosthesis including an anchoring rod which extends from a lower surface of a metal base and a tibial plate having a lower surface for engaging the upper surface of the metal base. The metal base is defined having an anterior portion which is radially outwardly of a central portion wherein at least one guide means defining an arcuately oriented guide structure extends upwardly from the anterior portion for controlling relative rotation of the tibial plate and the metal base. Further, the claim defines that the guide structure defines an arc having a center of rotation (C,C') within the central portion of the upper surface about which the tibial plate

rotates. Further, the claim recites that the recesses in the lower surface of the tibial plate is of an arcuate shape for cooperatively receiving the at least one guide means of the metal base such that the relative rotation between the tibial plate and the base is determined by the arcuate length of the recess relative to the arcuate length of the at least one guide means.

The foregoing relationship of components for a knee prosthesis is not disclosed in the primary references which have been cited. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention is clearly defined and distinctive with respect to the prior art.

In view of the foregoing, and also in view of the previously submitted Terminal Disclaimer, favorable consideration and allowance of claims 98 through 114 is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning the allowability of the claims, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would contact the undersigned newly appointed attorney of record for purposes of scheduling a personal interview before taking any action which may be considered final.

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Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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